PUBLIC NOTICE

PERMIT APPLICATION: NRS 04.055

APPLICANT: State of Tennessee

Department of Transportation

Environmental Planning and Permits Division

Suite 900, J. K. Polk Bldg.

5 Deaderick Street

Nashville, TN 37243-0334

615-253-2477

LOCATION: Town Creek, SR-29

Rhea County, 35.6680/84.8772

WATERSHED DESCRIPTION: The Town Creek/Ford Branch watershed is consists of numerous small wetlands and spring fed tributaries. The substrate is primarily gravel, silt and sand. The tributaries vary in size from 3 feet to 12 feet in width and have a depth of a few inches to just under 1 foot. There is little tree cover over the streams at the crossing sites with the exception of sparse Sycamores and shrubs. Land use is rural residential/agriculture.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Section 401/IARAP applicant proposes to widen the existing highway and improve it to a divided 4-lane highway. The project has previously been permitted and the impacts that are being noticed at this time are additional impacts not previously identified in that permit. The construction would involve permanent impact to 0.448 acre of wetlands. The applicant proposes to mitigate by debiting a total of 1.79 acres of available credit from the Coffee County Wetland Mitigation Bank. Specific impacts are listed below. Station 26+833+/- to Sta. 27+245+/- unnamed tributary to Town Creek relocation of 1250 ft. of stream and two 59 ft. 54-inch side drains and loss of 16 ft. of stream length. Trees would be planted along both relocated channel. Sta. 26+840+/- to Sta. 27+220+/- permanent impact to 0.222 acre of wetlands. Sta. 27+680+/- to 27+730 permanent impact to 0.085 acre and temporary impact to 0.038 acre wetlands. Sta. 27+808+/- to Sta. 27+854+/- temporary impact to 0.052 acre wetlands. Sta. 28+560+/- to Sta. 28+785+/- permanent impact to 0.363 acre and temporary impact to 0.227 acre wetlands.

The applicant proposes to mitigate 16 ft of stream encapsulation/loss by paying a total of 3,200.00 to the In-Lieu Fee Stream Mitigation Program.

Other activities involved in this project would be covered under general permits for bank stabilization, construction and removal of minor road crossings, and utility line crossings.

In accordance with the Tennessee Antidegradation Statement (Rule 1200-4-3-.06), the division has determined that the proposed activity will not result in degradation to water quality.

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE: Pennie, TN (118-NW) and Spring City, TN (118-NE)

PERMIT COORDINATOR: Brian Canada

No decision has been made whether to issue or deny this permit. The purpose of this notice is to inform interested parties of this permit application and to ask for comments and information necessary to determine possible impacts to water quality. Persons wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to submit written comments to the department. Written comments must be received within **thirty days of the date that this notice is posted**. Comments will become part of the record and will be considered in the final decision. The applicant's name and permit number should be referenced.

Interested persons may also request in writing that the department hold a public hearing on this application. The request must be filed within the comment period, indicate the interest of the person requesting it, the reasons that the hearing is warranted, and the water quality issues being raised. When there is sufficient public interest in water quality issues, the department will hold a public hearing.

The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are available at the department's address for review and/or copying. The department's address is:

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Division of Water Pollution Control, Natural Resources Section
7th Floor L & C Annex
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243

In deciding whether to issue or deny a permit, the department will consider all comments on record and the requirements of applicable federal and state laws.

